

Desert Valleys Regional Cooperative - DVR

The Desert Valleys Regional Cooperative (DVR) is a partnership between local school districts in the Phoenix metropolitan area and ASDB. The goal of the partnership is to provide appropriate educational programs and services for students with sensory impairments. The joint efforts of the local school and the DVR Cooperative help students who are deaf, blind, hearing impaired or visually impaired succeed in the general education environment.

Mission Statement

The mission of the partnership is for public education agencies and ASDB to work together in an efficient and cost effective manner to enable children and youth with sensory impairments to reach their maximum level of potential by providing appropriate local educational programs and services.

Meeting Student Needs

ASDB's Regional Cooperative Programs are part of the continuum of services available to sensory impaired students through the ASDB agency. Special education services and placement decisions are made by a student's IEP team based on his or her individual needs.

Students served through the DVR Cooperative attend school in their local schools and spend the majority of their school day in the general education classroom with non-disabled peers. Staff from the DVR Cooperative support the local schools in a variety of ways. In some public education agencies, DVR staff assist with the identification and evaluation of sensory impaired students. In other agencies, DVR staff also provide direct services to students through academic instruction, sign language interpreting, orientation and mobility training, and the provision of specialized materials (such as Braille books) and specialized equipment (such as FM amplification systems or CCTVs).

Services of the Desert Valley's Regional Cooperative

Assistance with identification of sensory impaired students

Evaluation of the educational implications of the sensory impairment

Specialized instruction and related services for sensory impaired students

Specialized equipment and materials

Implement accommodations and modifications in the general education program

Staff development for general education teachers